



Summary of Wells NERR 2010 TOTE Stewardship Projects

Teacher: Peter Cady

Location: Shapleigh Middle School, Kittery, ME

Project Title: Long Term Monitoring of the Jacqueline Nooney Property

Project Summary: Sixth grade students will access the Jacqueline Nooney Property, which is directly across from the school and includes a working farm, forest, and freshwater wetland. During their weekly 100 minute blocks of class time, the students will conduct water chemistry tests on the property. In addition, a Picture Post will be installed so that photographs can be taken on a regular basis to monitor landscape change.



Teacher: Dean Meggison (working currently as a consultant)

Location: The New School, Kennebunk, ME

Project Title: Nutrient Monitoring Video

Project Summary: Students will conduct nutrient sampling at a local river, and then create a brochure or video showing the results as they relate to the effects of excess fertilizers that enter the watershed. The brochure/video will be shared with other classrooms, civic-minded groups, and local community organizations to raise awareness of the harm to rivers from the overuse of fertilizers. The students may work with a cable network to produce the video. They will also visit the Wells NERR for a plankton/water quality monitoring field trip.

Teacher: Alison Doucette

Location: Nashoba Regional High School, Bolton, MA

Project Title: Composting & Garden Beds

Project Summary: The high school's Green Team students will implement a sustainable composting program and use the compost to support raised garden beds. The group will construct the compost bins, participate in the turning and collection of the compost, construct the garden beds, and do plantings before the school year's end. The goal is to create a sense of stewardship at the school as part of the greater ecosystem.



Teacher: Christine Durocher

Location: Wells Junior High School, Wells, ME

Project Title: Recycling Monofilament Fishing Line

Project Summary: The Marine Explorers (an afterschool group) will encourage the proper disposal and recycling of fishing line, through the construction and placement of collection bins on piers, near jetties, and at local bait and tackle shops. Students, local fishermen, tourists, and the community will be informed about the hazards caused by improperly discarding monofilament fishing line. The students will be involved in all aspects of the project, including building the collection bins, advertising the program, collecting the fishing line, and shipping the line to the recycling center.

Teacher: Maura Fitzsimmons

Location: Ipswich High School, Ipswich, MA

Project Title: Picture Post Installations

Project Summary: The Marine & Coastal Class students will install picture posts at environmentally vulnerable locations in town, specifically: a dune post at Crane Beach Reservation, a site on the Ipswich River, and two sites on the marsh (one upstream from a culvert and one downstream). Photographs will be taken at each post and uploaded to the picture post website to document changes in these habitats.

Teacher: Amy Filipowicz

Location: Dover High School, Dover, NH

Project Title: Salt Marsh Educational Display

Project Summary: The marine science students will collaborate with students in the art department's sculpture class to make a 3-D model of a typical New England salt marsh. The project will educate the marine science and art students regarding the abundance of life in salt marshes. In addition, because the sculpture will be on display at school, fellow students, staff, and parents will be educated as well. The marine science students will also participate in a long-term monitoring project, partnering with either the New Hampshire Coastal Program, Great Bay NERR, or NH Sea Grant.



Teacher: Emily Blazek

Location: Bedford High School, Bedford, NH

Project Title: Restoring Riparian Zones at Bedford High School

Project Summary: The International Baccalaureate Environmental Systems and Societies 11th and 12th grade students and the school's Go Green Club (9th-12th graders) will plant native vegetation on the school grounds to reduce erosion and runoff, thereby helping to keep the Merrimack Watershed clean. The group will also educate and increase awareness within the school community regarding why native vegetation riparian zone plantings are important.

Teacher: Peter Ruel

Location: Portsmouth Middle School, Portsmouth, NH

Project Title: Monitoring Change

Project Summary: A Picture Post will be installed across the street from the school. It will monitor the environmental quality of South Mill Pond photographically before, during, and after renovation of the school across the street. The post will have views of marshes, an adjacent dog park, Portsmouth Middle School, and the other school's construction site. Photographs will be taken once per month so that a record is available to monitor change.

Teacher: Andrea LaShomb

Location: Noble High School, North Berwick, ME

Project Title: Electronic Recycling Campaign

Project Summary: Students in Earthworks, a school environmental action club, will educate fellow students and the greater community about the need for proper disposal of electronic items such as phones, iPods, cameras, and ink cartridges. Items will be collected and sent to an electronics recycling facility. Students will design the campaign and decide where to put the collection boxes, how to raise awareness, how to advertise, how to motivate participation, etc. The high school will continue the recycling program for years to come.



Teacher: Sue Mack

Location: Nashua Catholic Regional Junior High School, Nashua, NH

Project Title: Recycling Program

Project Summary: Students will ultimately reduce the amount of waste that the school contributes to landfills by implementing a school-wide recycling program. Efforts will be focused on classroom and cafeteria recycling. In the classrooms, paper and pens will be recycled. In the cafeteria, zip lock bags, chip bags, and milk cartons will be targeted. Students will design the collection bins, posters, and infomercials used to promote the program to fellow students and school staff.



Teacher: Emily Sherman

Location: Scarborough High School, Scarborough, ME

Project Title: Invasive Species Management

Project Summary: Students will learn to identify invasive species, research removal strategies, and select manual control methods that can be used. They will then identify the species present on school grounds, create a site map, remove the invasive species, and photograph the site after removal efforts. Species targeted for removal will include European alder, shrubby honeysuckle, phragmites, Japanese knotweed, and purple loosestrife.



Teacher: Ed Tivnan

Location: Notre Dame High School, Lawrence, MA

Project Title: Trout in the Classroom

Project Summary: Students will carefully grow 200 Brook Trout eggs in the classroom and later release the fish into a designated habitat restoration area near the Parker River Estuary in MA. The goal is for students to develop a greater appreciation of the complexity and beauty of the Merrimack River aquatic ecosystem. This will be a joint effort of the high school's Environmental Action Team, Trout Unlimited, and MA Fish & Game.